

LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Community Affairs Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

2:03 PM

Third Floor, City Hall

Present: **Chair:** **CW Shanklin (Excused Absence)**
Members: **CM Henderson, CM Benson and CM Unseld**
Absent: **CM Hawkins**
Also Present: **CW Green**

CM Henderson chaired the meeting due to the absence of Chairman Shanklin. He began the meeting by announcing the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was not established.

Pending Legislation

R-123-07-09 A RESOLUTION URGING LOISVILLE METRO CITIZENS TO NOW ALLOW THEIR PANTS TO SAG BELOW THEIR WAIST WHEN IN PUBLIC.

Status: In Committee - Tabled
Committee: Community Affairs
Primary Sponsor: Judy Green

Motion to Untable made by Stuart Benson and seconded by George Unseld.

Discussion: MeShorn Daniels, Organizer of "Pull UpYour Pants Campaign", Markham French, Executive Director Plymouth Community Renewal Center and Walter Perry, spoke to the item. MeShorn Daniels gave handouts. The following was discussed.

- ❖ MeShorn Daniels stated a lot of people seem to be afraid to speak about Pull Up Your Pants
 - ✓ Large increase of single women raising children – absence of fathers
 - ✓ No guidance from adults in the household
 - ✓ We need to have the courage to say to young men how is sagging serving you
 - ✓ Sagging will keep young men and women at a certain level
 - ✓ More men and women need to step up to the plate and speak to young people about the issue
 - ✓ Do not want anyone to be fined
 - ✓ Most person that wear sagging pants, when asked drop their eyes and will not give a clear explanation to why they are sagging
- ❖ "Pull Your Pants Up" Campaign Launched in Louisville as part of 40 Days of Peace 2009 (attachment)
- ❖ Markham French stated he is glad we are not talking about an Ordinance where kids would be fined or locked –up for sagging
- ❖ What is the next step after the Resolution
- ❖ We are primarily targeting one particular group which is African American Males
 - African American Males are already stress out in our community
 - They have limited opportunities job wise and limited opportunities as a whole
- ❖ As Adults we often forget about our trends

- ✓ Hair in Afros
- ✓ Shelby Lanier was fired from the Police Department because he would not cut his hair (Afro)
- ✓ The fad (sagging pants) was created from Hip Hop back in 1990's
- ✓ It did not come from the prison – they didn't wear a belt because they were not allowed to have a belt.
- ✓ The fact of sagging is not obscene but offensive
- ✓ You're not going to get the kids attention by lecturing them
- ❖ Plymouth have a "Energy Generation Café – Give Adults and Children an opportunity to come together and listen to each other view points
 - ✓ Plymouth Renewal Center – had a panel discussion with adults and young people to get their view regarding sagging
 - It was stated when I go to church I am not sagging
 - Some wear shorts up under their pants
 - When I go to my friend mother house I don't sag
 - When I go to work I am not going to sag
- ❖ Michael Bishop spoke to the issue of sagging.
 - ✓ If you pass an Ordinance now that is not the issue
 - ✓ The Businesses should be held accountable for hiring people with sagging pants
 - The person wearing sagging pants have to continue pulling pants-up while fixing or serving your food - this is a health issue
 - The Businesses should lose their letter- instead of an A they should get a C
 - McDonald at Lyles Mall require that all employees have to come in and hold a certain statue level in dress apparel

CW Green thanked everyone for their concern and hard work.

Passed

For: 3; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 2

For: Robert Henderson, Stuart Benson, George Unseld

Against: (None)

Abstain: (None)

Absent: Barbara Shanklin, Doug Hawkins

By unanimous vote, this item was sent to the **Consent Calendar** on the September 10, 2009 Council Agenda.

R-24-02-09 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (LG&E) DEVELOP OTHER MEANS AND METHODS OF COMMUNICATION WITH METRO LOUISVILLE RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS SUCH AS POWER OUTAGES.

Status:	In Committee - Tabled
Committee:	Community Affairs
Primary Sponsor:	Dan Johnson

This item remained **Tabled**.

CM Henderson made a motion to Adjourn without objection

The meeting adjourned 2:35 at p.m.

***NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the September 10, 2009 Council Meeting.**

MEM